Delta Improvements Package

- Includes a draft plan from DWR and USBR to increase pumping capacity from South Delta
- Pumping capacity to increase from 6500 cfs to 8500 cfs, and ultimately to ~!0,600 cfs
- Working hypothesis behind the proposal is that increased flexibility allowed by increasing capacity would
  - increase water supply reliability
  - allow better maintenance and improvement of water quality and ecosystem condition
- Not clear (?) whether these improvements are expected only in the delta or system wide

ISB:

How securely do we know that these improvements will be achieved, especially system wide?

Are there ways to refine or insure the proposed improvements?

How do we know?
Can the proposals be refined?

- What is the background knowledge base, about present and future water supplies and demands?
- What are the likely impacts on flow, habitat condition, and water quality of the new pumping capacity scenarios under likely environmental conditions ?
- Are there any alternatives to increasing pumping capacity (such as demand management)?
- What large future changes (e.g. climate change, levee stability, population change, structural economic changes, and technological changes) should be envisioned in estimating might affect the need for and outcomes of changing pumping capacity?

ISB work on this topic to date

- Produced an elaborated set of the foregoing questions
- A thought-provoking research agenda for the entire CALFED community
- Beyond the resources of the ISB to pursue these questions

ISB Suggestion to WMSB

- Review and refine (but preferably don't further complicate!) the ISB's "long form' set of questions, using your knowledge of water operations
- Recommend
  - Which question(s) should be pursued immediately
  - in what order
  - by which body or means
  - how to engage talent and resources of agencies by broadening, linking, and supporting their current activities
- Consider whether/how to publicize all of the questions for wider analysis
  - Joint recommendation to Authority
  - Publication on CALFED's on-line journal
  - ?